

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, JULY 17, 2006

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday next for morning hour debate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

AMENDMENT PROCESS FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2389, PLEDGE PROTECTION ACT OF 2005

Mr. GINGREY. The Committee on Rules may meet the week of July 17 to grant a rule which could limit the amendment process for floor consideration of H.R. 2389, the Pledge Protection Act of 2005.

Any Member wishing to offer an amendment should submit 55 copies of the amendment and one copy of a brief explanation of the amendment to the Rules Committee in room H-312 of the Capitol by noon on Tuesday, July 18, 2006. Members should draft their amendments to the bill as introduced on May 17, 2005.

Members should use the Office of Legislative Counsel to ensure that their amendments are drafted in the most appropriate format, and they should check with the Office of the Parliamentarian to be certain that their amendments comply with the rules of the House.

EVERY COUNTRY HAS A RIGHT TO DEFEND ITSELF

(Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to condemn Hezbollah and Hamas for the recent kidnappings and killings of Israeli soldiers.

These acts of aggression have forced Israel to defend itself and its citizens and will have a damaging effect on the prospect of peace in the Middle East. If someone attacked across our borders and sent rockets into the United States and had killed or captured our own soldiers, you had better believe we would want to defend ourselves. Israel has the right to respond just like we would.

Israel fully withdrew from southern Lebanon in May of 2000 and from Gaza earlier this year only to suffer hundreds of unprovoked attacks from both areas since then. This is not the first time Hezbollah has taken action against Israeli soldiers. It also kidnapped and killed three soldiers in October of 2000.

These attacks are an attempt by Hezbollah to open a second front, so to speak, after the kidnappings in Gaza and their attack on Israel's sovereignty. Hezbollah's actions require Israel to defend itself, and Israel's actions to take out terrorist camps along its borders to prevent this from happening again are warranted and justified. Israel has to defend itself from these terrorist organizations that want to go back to pre-1948 before there was Israel. They don't want Israel on the map.

These countries with influence over Hezbollah must move quickly to bring the return of these soldiers.

Mr. Speaker, I condemn the acts of Hezbollah and Hamas and ask my colleagues to do so as well.

ISRAEL HAS A RIGHT TO DEFEND ITSELF

(Mr. WELDON of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, last month Israel was provoked when Hamas terrorists kidnapped Corporal Gilad Shalit, an Israeli soldier manning a check point. This was an unprovoked act of terror, an act of war against Israel by Hamas, which also controls the Palestinian Authority government.

As long as Hamas embraces terrorism and refuses to acknowledge the right of Israel to exist, terrorists will persist in the Palestinian land.

Earlier this week, Hezbollah kidnapped two Israeli soldiers in northern Israel. Israel has responded in an effort to rescue these soldiers and diminish the possibility of Hezbollah to launch missiles into Israeli population centers.

I rise to express support for our ally Israel as it deals with yet more terrorist acts. The kidnapping of the Israeli soldiers can certainly be considered a provocation of war. Unfortunately, Israel's withdrawal from the Gaza Strip has not led to a positive transformation of Palestinian politics or more security for the Israeli people.

We need to support Israel in this difficult time.

NORTH KOREA AND THE DEMOCRATS

(Mr. MCHENRY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, while America marked the anniversary of our

independence, North Korea demonstrated the danger of oppressive regimes.

International threats are often distressing, but the silver lining in there is that there is a galvanizing effect. Threats test our mettle and express not our weaknesses but our strengths as a Nation.

And make no mistake about it, this Republican majority in the House stands strongly in defending our Nation while Democrats have waged a two-decade-long campaign to undermine our national defense capabilities.

In May, just May, 117 Democrats voted to cut more than half the funding, \$4.7 billion, from our missile defense program in the national defense authorization bill. In other words, the Democrats are applying their national defense strategy in Iraq to North Korea. It is called "ostrich": you stick your head in the sand and ignore the threats.

Well, at least there is consistency in their policy, Mr. Speaker. Maybe they will propose to cut and run from Alaska and Hawaii too because they could be attacked by North Korea with their missiles.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

VIOLENCE AND CORRUPTION IN IRAQI POLICE FORCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, for months and months we have been hearing from the Bush administration that the training of Iraqi security forces is going as planned. America will stand down just as soon as Iraq stands up, they said. A milestone which we were assured was just around the corner.

Well, now we know the truth. Not only can they not stand up; they can barely crawl. And when they do crawl, all too often they are fighting each other or U.S. troops.

The Los Angeles Times published a shocking report over the weekend about the violence and corruption that is permeating the Iraqi police. According to the Times, we are talking about "the rape of female prisoners, the release of terrorism suspects in exchange for bribes, assassinations of police officers, and participation in insurgent bombings. . . ."

"Officers have beaten prisoners to death. They have been involved in kidnapping rings, sold thousands of stolen and forged Iraqi passports, and passed along vital information to insurgents. . . ."

In one Baghdad neighborhood known as a militia stronghold, police tortured detainees with electricity and beatings.